

# BRIGHT SUN DISPATCH

FACULTY SENATE | ROGUE COMM. COLLEGE | NOV. 2020



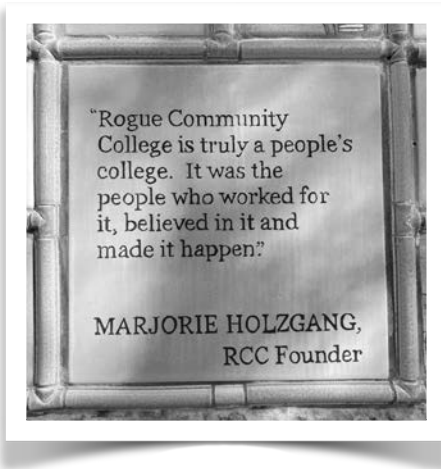
Faculty Friends,  
Time changes, full moons,  
elections, seasons,  
pandemics, holidays,  
RogueNet to CNS to  
RogueNet...these past few  
weeks have been a whirlwind  
of changes and it is no  
wonder that we are feeling  
the effects of it in our bodies,

our hearts, and deep in our  
souls. Take a moment for  
yourselves to recharge with  
our massage therapy  
program (55 mins for \$20) or  
come to Coffee Klatch and  
reconnect with faculty friends  
or pick up a book  
recommended below and  
curl up with a hot cup of

herbal tea. However you  
decide to recharge...let's all  
get some color back in our  
lives for 2021! Hope to see  
you in a Zoom square or two  
before we break for winter.  
Take care of yourselves...and  
each other. -Namaste.

*If all difficulties were known  
at the outset of a long  
journey, most of us would  
never start out at all.*

*-Dan Rather*



*If I had to live my life again,  
I'd make the same  
mistakes, only sooner.*

*-Tallulah Bankhead*

On Tuesday, November 24 from  
4-6pm, ASG & The MIC

Droppers will be hosting a

**Friends-Giving Open Mic**

**Talent Show!!** The last Open  
Mic in Spring 2020 was a huge  
success and we wanted to have  
another event for the students  
to showcase their talents.

Stay tuned in the coming days  
for emails and watch on the  
RCC website for more  
information and the ZOOM  
login!

We look forward to seeing  
everyone there!

Contact [sventura@rogucecc.edu](mailto:sventura@rogucecc.edu)  
or [mwhitchurch@rogucecc.edu](mailto:mwhitchurch@rogucecc.edu)  
for more information.

**From the Desk of Juliet Long,  
Important Instructional Follow-  
Up:**

**Finals Week - online where  
possible**

With quarantine requirements  
in place post travel, we  
recognize that there may be  
people impacted with their  
ability to return to campus  
after Thanksgiving weekend.  
We are asking that to the  
fullest extent possible that any  
course meeting in person this  
term holds their final exams  
and assessments online.

**Winter Term - start of term  
changed to January 11th**

Additionally, the start of Winter  
term has been delayed one  
week. This will result in Spring  
break going back to one  
week. Faculty on 176 day  
contracts can email their dean/  
supervisor with the 1.5 days  
during the week of January  
4-8th they will be working and  
are no longer expected to  
work on Dec. 30/31. Faculty  
on all other contracts will need  
to update their planning  
calendars or confirm by email

that no changes are being  
made to work days due to this  
change.

We appreciate your  
understanding as we navigate  
these unusual times. Please  
reach out if you have  
questions.

**From the Desk of Mary  
Middleton, RCCEA President:**

We are very gratified with the  
decision from management to move  
RCC away from CNS. Thank you to all  
who helped work with that program  
and all who helped RCC move to that  
decision. FAMAT bargaining is still in  
session, we are meeting every two  
weeks and making progress on the  
Interest Based Bargaining for the  
2021-2024 contract. RCCEA  
members watch for an email asking  
for your vote on 2 upcoming items  
that are budget related. All faculty,  
please come to the RCCEA faculty  
Koffee Klatch this coming week,  
Wednesday and/or Thursday,  
2:30pm (invite sent via email). Thanks  
everyone!

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

# CHANGES TO OUR SYLLABI...GET TO KNOW ...CONCOURSE!!!

Faculty Senate is in the process of learning CONCOURSE, a syllabus creation software that will help streamline all course syllabi at RCC. Below is some information for you to look at and keep in your "important file" for Winter 2021...

From the Concourse Brochure:

"Concourse: Superior Syllabus Management

Concourse is the world's most widely adopted syllabus management platform.

We solve your syllabus challenges. Instantly.

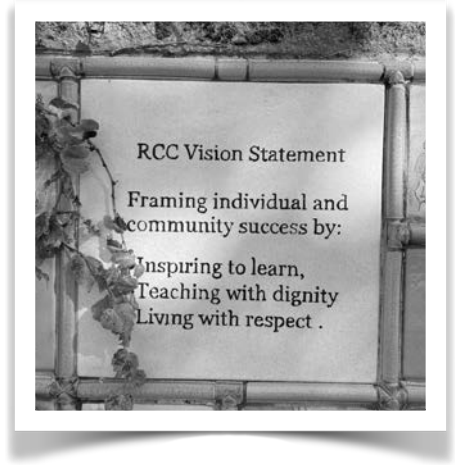
By Schools, for Schools.

Everything you need, at your fingertips."

The following was sent out to Faculty Senate from Amy Durst. Please familiarize yourself with this information

Here are some key aspects of the Concourse platform:

- Brief Explainer video (~2 min) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOy0ZblQ\\_3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOy0ZblQ_3E)
- Website (click around for full information on syllabus platform and company) [www.intellidemia.com](http://www.intellidemia.com)
- Here is a demo link if you would like to use the software in a test environment: [https://demo.campusconcourse.com/start\\_demo?access\\_token=O1E8OrO3obAcodeziJa9EHAgYqyHyllgoxumOzix](https://demo.campusconcourse.com/start_demo?access_token=O1E8OrO3obAcodeziJa9EHAgYqyHyllgoxumOzix) It may prompt you to put in your email address.
- Some helpful social media links
  - o web: [intellidemia.com](http://intellidemia.com)
  - o twitter: [twitter.com/syllabus](https://twitter.com/syllabus)
  - o linkedin: [linkedin.com/company/intellidemia](https://linkedin.com/company/intellidemia)



## Agenda for November Faculty Senate Meeting - November 20th - 10am:

Lots of exciting agenda items are on the books for this month's meeting.

The Short Topics are:

**Shannon Van Lehn** - How we are supporting our students.

**Tina Weyland**- EDI Learning Community

**Andy Childress** - Follow up on Zoom recordings

**Shaylee Graham** - basic Zoom guidelines in Student Code of Conduct

We have a Guided Group Discussion from **Shaylee, Tina, Vanessa, and Marina** regarding **The Student Huddle**. A breakdown of these meetings will be included in future newsletters.

This month's **G.I.F.T.** will be presented by **Jim Shaw**: "Online Teaching Conference 2020". These Great Ideas For Teaching are not to be missed!

As for **Shared Governance**, we will discuss the survey results, **Concourse** syllabus software and asking for faculty input, and class maximum enrollment numbers.

**It's a full plate! Don't miss it!**

# WHAT YOUR FACULTY SENATE IS READING...FOR FUN-ZEEZ!

## From Deborah Murphy, Early Childhood Development:

Pulitzer prize winning historian, Jon Meacham, has written an inspiring book about an inspiring man. *His Truth is Marching On - John Lewis and the Power of Hope* is the story of one man, the story of America.

John Lewis was devoted to change via the civil rights movement. He was committed to non-violence. We are familiar with the pictures of the Selma to Montgomery March, aka "Bloody Sunday". This is some of the story of what happened then and what happened moving forward.

This book delves deeply into the spirit of who John Lewis was and what his life meant. Although not a long book, I took my time to read it as there were many thought provoking passages.

John Lewis started his life in Troy, Alabama, son of a poor sharecropper. His life was transformed by non-violent

leadership to effect change. John Lewis passed away in June 2020 yet was able to write an Afterward.

"I came of age in the segregated America. The message of the civil rights movement was straightforward, and it was a message grounded in hope: we are one people; We are one family; we all live in the same house - the American house, the world house."

Sheriff Jim Clark ordered the attack on the Edmund Pettus bridge that Sunday morning. Subsequently he lost his next election and went on to sell mobile homes; John Lewis went to Congress. For decades he fought for his beliefs. Worth reading!

For further exploration: David Greenburg from Rutgers University is working a full-scale biography of John Lewis. *Walking in the Wind* is John Lewis' autobiography. An award-winning trilogy of graphic novels, *MARCH*, also relate the tale of this extraordinary American life.

## From Tracy Redd, Math Department and Faculty

**Senate Co-Chair:** I read the book *Limitless Mind* by Jo Boaler over the summer and really liked it. Jo Boaler is a Stanford University professor. As the front flap says, "she explodes the myth that our brains are static and reveals the six keys to unlocking our boundless learning potential." I recommend this book for anyone going into teaching, and in fact, to anyone that's in any way involved in the education process – teachers, administrators, parents, and learners. While I liked the entire book, my favorite chapter is Chapter 2: Why We Should Love Mistakes, Struggle, and Even Failure.

## And From Dorothy Swain, Science Department:

The world is a mess! And I must act. But it's not all on me. This is the message of Naomi Klein's *On Fire: The (Burning) Case for a Green New Deal*. The book is a collection of previously-published essays, published by Simon & Schuster in 2019. She writes about oil spills, wildfires, hurricanes, Pope Francis, the Dust Bowl, and computer models that predict the necessity of activism, just to name a few. While she describes a world in crisis, she emphasizes that these times can catapult us forward as well as backward. She highlights connections between the braided issues of climate change, racial equity and economic justice, which cannot be solved piecemeal. None of these burning issues can wait. If we don't transform everything, we won't have the buy-in to transform anything.

One essay focuses on the 2010 BP offshore explosion, the resulting oil spill, and the hubris of the corporate credo: "If you knew you could not fail, what would you try?" No wonder Louisiana locals responded to reassurances at a public meeting with "You act like you know, but you don't know". It's hard to admit what we don't know and even harder to live within the limits of caution. Klein points out "how little control even the most ingenious among us have over [...] natural forces." She suggests appropriately that one advantage of renewable energies is that "when they fail, they fail small".

However, many of us can't imagine life without fossil fuels, and this brings us to the power of story. The story of ourselves as consumers dominates the public imagination. Klein suggests that we can exchange this for a far less bleak view of humanity. Maybe I don't have what it takes to run for public office or to start my own mass movement, but I can work on developing a better story of who I am in this world and who we all can be. Klein suggests that this new story is already emerging, from streets, from schools, from workplaces, "a vision that says that all of us, combined, make up the fabric of society." I can contribute to this story, and so can you.

With Green New Deal right there in the title, this sounds like a lefty book, but it doesn't have to be. It is a book about looking squarely at climate, race, and economics, then joining together as a global society to confront our collective challenges. We are all responsible, whatever our politics. If you are looking for a book about climate change that is well-researched, realistic and weirdly hopeful, then this is the book for you!